

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 SAJ-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 OMB-01

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 EB-07 TRSE-00 DHA-02 SAM-01

AF-08 ERDA-05 OES-06 SAB-01 /123 W

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R 231509Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7846

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

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CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA

CNO WASHDC//OP-614
DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII
OSD/ISA/EUR WASHDC

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, UR, US, XG, XF, XJ, SE, XM KN, KS TM
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - AUGUST 21-23

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

-- U.S. COVERAGE FEATURES COMMENTARIES ON
REPUBLICAN PARTY CONVENTION. OTHER ITEMS ARE TYPICALLY
NEGATIVE.

-- PRAVDA AND KZ CARRY TASS ITEM AUG 22 WHICH
USES STATEMENT BY CP GERMANY SEC GEN TO DENOUNCE
PROVOCATIONS ALONG FRG-GDR BORDER. ARTICLE FAILS TO
HOLD FRG GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVOCATIONS BUT
DEPLORES CONTINUING MOVE TO THE RIGHT IN FRG AND
CDU/CSU PRETENSIONS TO POWER. PRAVDA ALSO HAD SHORT
PIECE AUG 21 ON STRAUSS "MANEUVERS" TO STRENGTHEN HIS
POSITION WITHIN CDU/CSU GROUPING, SPECIFICALLY HIS
PUBLICATION OF "SHADOW CABINET" LIST WITH HIMSELF AS
VICE CHANCELLOR AND MINISTER OF FINANCE.

-- ON BERLIN, NOVOYE VREMYA CORRESPONDENT
LYSENKO CARRIES FULL DESCRIPTION OF AUG 13 ANTI-WALL MEETING
AND REFUSAL TO LET DEMONSTRATORS' BUSES
THROUGH, SAYING LATTER JUSTIFIED ON BASIS OF DEC 17
1971 FRG-GDR TRANSIT AGREEMENT BY WITNESSES' STATEMENTS
CONCERNING MISUSE OF TRANSIT ROUTES; LYSENKO DOES
NOT MENTION SHOOTINGS, BUT LINKS "PROVOCATIONS" TO
FRG ELECTION CAMPAIGN.

-- ON MIDDLE EAST, AUG 22 PRAVDA HAS INTERESTING ME SENTENCE
BURIED IN TASS COPENHAGEN REPORT ON SCANDINAVIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS'
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MEETING. COMMUNIQUE ON MEETING, SAYS ARTICLE, NOTES THAT UNSC
RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 REPRESENT BASIS FOR PEACEFUL, JUST SOLUTION
OF ME PROBLEMS.

-- LEBANESE DEVELOPMENTS DRAW EXTENSIVE TREATMENT IN WEEKEND
PRESS. AUG 20 IZVESTIYA "INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY" BY L.
KORYAVIN CHARGES THAT LEBANESE EVENTS ARE RESULT OF CONSPIRACY BY
IMPERIALISM, ZIONISM, AND ARAB REACTION. ISRAELI "BLOCKADE" AND
MILITARY SUPPLY EFFORTS ARE LABELED "DANGEROUS GAME WITH FIRE".

AUG 21 KZ "INTERNATIONAL MILITARY, POLITICAL REVIEW" CONTINUES THESE THEMES LABELING BLOCKADE "FROM STANDPOINT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW" NOTHING LESS THAN AN "ACT OF AGGRESSION." KZ COMMENTARY CITES LEBANESE CP THAT PRESENCE OF SYRIAN TROOPS IN LEBANON COMPLICATES SITUATION. SAME POINT IS MADE MORE DIRECTLY BY MEMBERS OF ITALIAN FORUM FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE AND MEDITERRANEAN IN PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA AUG 21 WHO SAY THAT SYRIAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN LEBANON DOES NOT ALLOW A SOLUTION OF PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. PRAVDA AND KZ AUG 22 CARRY SIMILAR COMMENT BY FRENCH NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL, WHICH REPORTEDLY SAID IT WAS "ESSENTIAL" TO ACHIEVE WITHDRAWAL OF SYRIAN TROOPS TO OPEN PATH TO NEGOTIATIONS.

-- AUG 22 PRAVDA REPORTS ARRIVAL IN LEBANON OF TWO U.S. DIPLOMATS FOR "NEGOTIATION AND CONSULTATION" WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF RIGHTIST-CHRISTIAN FORCES. PREVIOUS SUCH CONTACTS, SAYS ARTICLE, HAVE AROUSED CONCERN (OBESPOKOENNOST') OF PROGRESSIVE LEBANESE PUBLIC OPINION.

-- AUG 21 PRAVDA REPORTS VISIT HERE AUG 9-20 UNDER CC CPSU AUSPICES OF DELEGATION OF ACTIVISTS OF ISRAELI CP.

-- AUG 20 NOVOYE VREMYA HAS FIRST PART OF ANGOLA CHAPTER FROM OLEG IGNATEV'S FORTHCOMING BOOK, "SEKRETNOE ORUZHIE V AFRIKE (SECRET WEAPON IN AFRICA)." ARTICLE USES WESTERN AND OTHER PRESS ACCOUNTS TO GIVE DETAILED PICTURE OF U.S.-CIA SUPPORT OF ANTI-MPLA EFFORT BEGINNING IN JANUARY 1975.

-- ON AFRICA, KZ AUG 22 CARRIES TASS LUANDA PIECE CITING NEWSPAPER DIARIO DE LUANDA ON U.S.- SOUTH AFRICAN TIES. AUG 22 PRAVDA "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" BY V. TYURKIN EMPHASIZES THREAT TO PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY REPRESENTED BY PLANS OF MEMBER COUNTRIES OF NATO TO SUPPLY NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY TO SOUTH AFRICA (PARTICULARLY THROUGH FRAMATOM COMPANY).

-- AUG 23 PRAVDA CARRIES TASS NEW YORK REPORT ON UNSC NAMIBIA COMMITTEE REJECTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WINDHOEK "CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE" PROPOSAL.

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-- PRAVDA AUG 22 CARRIES LENGTHY PIECE BY ITS ADDIS ABABA CORRESPONDENT, V. KOROBKOV ON NEW REPUBLIC OF SYECHELLES. KOROBKOV WRITES ABOUT POOR ECONOMIC CONDITION OF TERRITORY, SUGGESTS GOVERNMENT'S PLAN FOR FISHING INDUSTRY MAY HELP BRING REPUBLIC OUT OF ECONOMIC DOLDRUMS.

-- IZVESTIYA AUG 21 AND PRAVDA AUG 22 MENTION DISCUSSION AT MOSCOW AIRPORT BETWEEN GUINEAN PM BEAVOGUI AND DEP CHAIRMAN OF USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ARKHIPOV AND DEPFONMIN IL'ICHEV.

-- AUG 21 IZVESTIYA DESCRIBES GEN SEC OF GUINEA-BISSAU STATE COMMISSARIAT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TURNING OVER TO SOVIET GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ON GUINEA-BISSAU SIGNING OF HOST OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND CONVENTIONS. SAME ISSUE OF IZVESTIYA AND AUG 21 KZ DESCRIBE SOVIET DESTROYER, "BRAVY," VISIT TO PORT BISSAU AUG 24-28.

-- AUG 20 IZVESTIYA HAS ARTICLE DESCRIBING BACKGROUND OF

ECUADOREAN TU CONFERENCE REPORTED DEMAND THAT ECUADORIAN GOVERNMENT EXPEL U.S. AMBASSADOR BLOOMFIELD.

-- AUG 20 ISSUE OF NOVOYE VREMYA CARRIES ARTICLE ON PANAMA BY A. SMIRNOV, WHO EMPHASIZES U.S. MILITARY AND ECONOMIC INTEREST IN PANAMA, AND DESCRIBES CURRENT "DIFFICULT STAGE" OF U.S.-PANAMA TALKS. QUOTING GENERAL TORRILLOS, SMIRNOV SAYS PANAMA WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL 1977 (AFTER U.S. ELECTION) TO RESUME SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS.

-- PRAVDA AUG 21,22 WAS THE ONLY SOVIET MEDIA ORGAN TO CARRY ANY MENTION OF THE KOREAN INCIDENT. COVERAGE WAS VERY LIMITED WITH NO DESCRIPTION OR COMMENT ON THE INCIDENT ITSELF (SEPTEL).

-- THE MEDIA REPORTED THE CONCLUSION OF COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT WITH NECESSARY ASSERTIONS OF SOLIDARITY BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND "SOCIALIST" (I.E. COMMUNIST) COUNTRIES. BUT THE SOVIET COVERAGE IS BOTH WEAK AND MUTED, SUGGESTING THAT THE MEETING FELL SHORT OF MOSCOW'S EXPECTATIONS (SEPTEL).

-- PRAVDA AUG 22, 23 CARRIES FAIRLY FULL REPORTS ON FUROR IN BANGKOK OVER GENERAL PRAPHAT'S SECRET RETURN AND HIS LATER EXPULSION FROM THAILAND.

-- KZ AUG 21 DENOUCED AUSTRALIAN PM FRASER FOR ALLEGEDLY SEEKING A FOUR-POWER ALLIANCE (U.S., JAPAN, CHINA, AUSTRALIA) TO SERVE "PENTAGON" INTERESTS IN THE PACIFIC AND INDIAN OCEANS.

2. U.S. COVERAGE IS LIGHT AND NEGATIVE.
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-- AUG 22 PRAVDA "INTERNATIONAL WEEK" HAS LENGTHY ANALYSIS OF REPUBLICAN CONVENTION WHICH INDICATES RELIEF THAT PRESIDENT WON RENOMINATION, BUT POINTS OUT THAT, AS A RESULT OF CONVENTION MANEUVERING, HE IS NOW SADDLED WITH CONSERVATIVE PARTY PLATFORM NOT LIKELY TO HELP A MINORITY PARTY ATTRACT SUPPORT IN NOVEMBER. ARTICLE QUOTES NYT AND WP ON CONSERVATIVE, PRO-MILITARY SPENDING ASPECTS OF PARTY PLATFORM. ARTICLE STATES THAT "ADHERENTS OF A REALISTIC COURSE" IN GOP WERE ABLE TO KEEP PLANK ON US-SOVIET RELATIONS TADY. SECRETARY IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT PLATFORM AMENDMENTS WOULD "EXERT NO INFLUENCE ON FOREIGN POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF USA."

-- AUG 21 KZ HAS TASS WASHINGTON ARTICLE ON SECDEF RUMSFELD'S "PERSONAL MESSAGES" TO CONGRESSIONAL ARMED FORCES COMMITTEES DEMANDING ADOPTION OF PENTAGON'S PROGRAM OF "SHARP INCREASE" IN ARSENAL OF ARMED FORCES INCLUDING A 40 PERCENT INCREASE IN FUNDS FOR NAVAL CONSTRUCTION OVER FIVE YEARS. STOESEL

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